

Program D: Virtual High School (formerly Telelearning)

Program Authorization: R.S. 17:1961-1968

Program Description

The mission of the Virtual High School (formerly the Telelearning Program) is to provide otherwise unavailable instructional services to schools throughout the state to help students qualify for scholarships and entry to restricted-admissions universities in Louisiana .

The goal of the Virtual High School (formerly the Telelearning Program) is to provide for its participants the faculty, technology, equipment, textbooks, and materials of instruction necessary for such students to be eligible to receive scholarships (i.e., the TOPS program) and to qualify for admissions to restricted-admissions universities in Louisiana where such scholarships and admissions are based upon successful completion of specific courses of study.

The Virtual High School (formerly the TeleLearning Program) provides instructional services to public high schools throughout the State of Louisiana where such instruction would not otherwise be available owing to a lack of funding and/or qualified instructors to teach the courses. The program provides instruction in math, science, foreign languages, the humanities, and the arts. The bulk of the program's funding is provided in an annual grant by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). The program does receive a limited State General Fund appropriation which is used chiefly for salaries for the faculty. The program began more than a decade ago using what was then a relatively new technology called "audiographics" which connect a teacher to several remote sites using computers and speaker phones over telephone lines.

In recent years, the program has begun an evolution, and beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, all instruction will be web-based. Instead of a teacher being linked to students at several schools simultaneously via telephone bridging, students will access the class information by calling up the site on the Internet. While direct interaction between students and teachers will be dramatically reduced, the web site will provide carefully-structured instruction which will include reference pages for students who have questions. A telephone number will be available for students to call instructors if the reference screens are not sufficient to answer their questions. As the Virtual High School goes on line in 2003-2004, audiographics will be phased out.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR THE PROGRAM

	ACTUAL 2001-2002	ACT 13 2002-2003	EXISTING 2002-2003	CONTINUATION 2003-2004	RECOMMENDED 2003-2004	RECOMMENDED OVER/(UNDER) EXISTING
MEANS OF FINANCING:						
STATE GENERAL FUND (Direct)	\$227,797	\$148,878	\$148,878	\$177,485	\$150,420	\$1,542
STATE GENERAL FUND BY:						
Interagency Transfers	669,439	1,000,000	1,001,542	1,001,542	1,001,542	0
Fees & Self-gen. Revenues	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Dedications	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interim Emergency Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	\$897,236	\$1,148,878	\$1,150,420	\$1,179,027	\$1,151,962	\$1,542
EXPENDITURES & REQUEST:						
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Compensation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Related Benefits	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Other Charges	897,236	1,148,878	1,150,420	1,179,027	1,151,962	1,542
Total Acq. & Major Repairs	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND REQUEST	\$897,236	\$1,148,878	\$1,150,420	\$1,179,027	\$1,151,962	\$1,542
AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME						
EQUIVALENTS: Classified	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unclassified	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

SOURCE OF FUNDING

This program is funded with State General Fund and Interagency Transfers. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education transfers funds to this program from the Louisiana Quality Education [8(g)] fund to finance LSMSA's Telelearning efforts. Additionally the Department of Education is budgeted to transfer funds to LSMSA for the Virtual High School - Algebra on line pilot program. Supplementing the budget is fees generated from various state agencies utilizing telephone bridging equipment.

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La School for Math, Science and the Arts - Program D:
Virtual High School

MAJOR FINANCIAL CHANGES

GENERAL FUND	TOTAL	T.O.	DESCRIPTION
\$148,878	\$1,148,878	0	ACT 13 FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003
			BA-7 TRANSACTIONS:
\$0	\$1,542	0	BA-7 #205 Salary supplement for non-certified unclassified support workers
\$148,878	\$1,150,420	0	EXISTING OPERATING BUDGET - December 2, 2002
\$1,542	\$1,542	0	Other Technical Adjustments - Salary supplement from DOE for non-certified unclassified support workers
\$150,420	\$1,151,962	0	TOTAL RECOMMENDED
\$0	\$0	0	LESS GOVERNOR'S SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS
\$150,420	\$1,151,962	0	BASE EXECUTIVE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004
			SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINGENT ON NEW REVENUE:
\$0	\$0	0	TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINGENT ON NEW REVENUE
\$150,420	\$1,151,962	0	GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

This program does not have funding for Professional Services for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

\$0 TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

OTHER CHARGES

\$1,150,420	Telelearning and Virtual High School - Algebra on-line pilot - Expenses
\$1,542	Salary supplement from Department of Education for non-certified unclassified support workers

\$1,151,962 SUB-TOTAL OTHER CHARGES

Interagency Transfers:

This program does not have funding for Interagency Transfers for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

\$0 SUB-TOTAL INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS

\$1,151,962 TOTAL OTHER CHARGES

ACQUISITIONS AND MAJOR REPAIRS

This program does not have funding for Acquisitions and Major Repairs for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

\$0 TOTAL ACQUISITIONS AND MAJOR REPAIRS